"Tax hikes and runaway spending are not the change Americans want to see from Washington."

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) today issued the following statement on tax day:

"Tax day is a stark reminder that since January 2009, Washington has imposed tax increases totaling more than $670 billion – more than $2,100 for every man, woman and child in the United States. The health care bill alone included 12 provisions that violated President Obama's pledge not to raise taxes on middle class families. Now, plans are in the works to allow existing tax cuts to expire, while adding a national energy tax and European-style value-added tax.

"Tax hikes and runaway spending are not the change Americans want to see from Washington. With our economy in a recession, we need to pass tax relief that will let people keep, save, spend and reinvest more of what they earn, so that small businesses can get back to creating jobs and we put our economy on steady footing. In the next year I will continue to work to provide tax relief for south central Florida's families, small businesses and farmers.

"I will also support efforts to simplify the tax code and make compliance easier. The IRS estimated that in fiscal year 2009, individual and business taxpayers spent 7.75 billion hours complying with tax laws. Individual payers alone spent $29.33 billion in 2009 for tax software, tax preparers and other out-of-pocket costs to pay their income taxes. South central Florida's families, small business and farmers should not have to spend months completing costly, burdensome paperwork just to determine how much of your hard-earned money you have to fork over to the federal government."

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